

N.S.W. Public Dept.
15th October, 1957.

B.C.S. 1957/8.

22 OCT 1957

NEW SOUTH WALES

DIGEST OF CURRENT STATISTICS

GENERAL

Page

102

PART I: EMPLOYMENT, POPULATION AND NON-RURAL INDUSTRIES

Employment	September, 1957	102
Production - Coal	September, 1957	103
- Iron and Steel	August, 1957	103
New South Wales Railways	Year 1956-57 and August, 1957	104
Motor Vehicle Registrations	August, 1957	104

PART II: FINANCE AND TRADE

Central Banking	September, 1957	105
Trading Banks	September, 1957	105
Savings Bank Deposits	August, 1957	106
Capital Issues	Year, 1956-57	106
Sydney Stock Exchange	September, 1957	107
New South Wales Accounts	September, 1957	107
Retail Trade	August, 1957	108

PART III: RURAL INDUSTRIES

The Season	September, 1957	109
Livestock and Wool Clip	Year 1956-57	109
Meat - Production and Use	Year 1956-57	110
Dairying, Production and Use	August, 1957	111
Wool - Receipts, Price and Exports	September, 1957	111

<u>GRAPHS</u> : Economic Indicators	Years, 1953-57	113/114
-------------------------------------	----------------	---------

GENERAL = New South Wales.

The labour demand showed signs of recovery at the end of winter, and the number of persons on unemployment benefit began to decline in September. Production and trade indicators generally kept steady in recent months. Very dry weather during September and the first half of October caused a serious deterioration of crops and pastures.

PART 1: EMPLOYMENT AND NON-RURAL INDUSTRIES

EMPLOYMENT - New South Wales and Australia. (See also graph p.113)
(The data in this section exclude defence forces and national servicemen; except for the C.E.S. series and unemployment beneficiaries they also exclude rural workers and women in private domestic service).

New South Wales employment reached its lowest point so far for the year in July when the recorded total of 1,090,400 was 5,200 below the March peak. The fall was confined to private employment, mainly in mining, manufacturing and building. Government employment in transport and communication, construction, and health, education and other services was well maintained in recent months. Its share of 24% in total employment remained however about the same as in July 1956 and 1955. Indicators for August and September, shown in the next two paragraphs, point to an improvement in the overall employment position after July.

N.S.W. : WAGE AND SALARY EARNERS IN CIVIL EMPLOYMENT - Thousands

Year and Month	Males	Females	Persons		
			Government	Private	Total
1951 - November	765.0	295.2	248.3	811.9	1,060.2
1954 - January	748.1	277.0	246.1	779.0	1,025.1
1955 - July	776.9	293.0	255.7	814.2	1,069.9
1956 - July	786.1	299.5	262.0	823.6	1,085.6
1957 - March	791.4	304.2	260.8	834.8	1,095.6
- April	788.3	302.6	261.0	829.9	1,090.9
- May	789.9	303.0	261.7	831.2	1,092.9
- June	789.5	302.2	262.2	829.5	1,091.7
- July	788.3	302.1	262.3	828.1	1,090.4

Commonwealth Employment Service reports for New South Wales (including A.C.T.) for August and September 1957 indicate that the deterioration in the labour position, which was evident earlier in the year, was being arrested. The number of applicants registered for placement declined from 24,100 in July to 22,400 in September, and, with the number of unfilled vacancies notified rising, applicants were placed at a faster rate. The number of persons receiving unemployment benefit, which had risen from 700 in September 1955 and 3,200 in September 1956 to 7,900 in August 1957, was reduced to 7,200 at the end of September.

End of Month	Commonwealth Employment Service N.S.W. & A.C.T.					Unemployment Benefit Recipients N.S.W.	
	Reg'd for Placement, stating to be				Vacancies Un- filled		
	Not at work	Seeking Job Change	Total				
	Persons	Men	Women	Persons			
1951-August	4,300	4,300	5,700	2,900	8,600	58,900	100
1952-December	35,700	3,000	30,800	7,900	38,700	5,900	25,100
1955-September	5,500	3,800	4,900	4,400	9,300	23,600	700
1956-September	12,100	4,000	9,900	6,200	16,100	10,100	3,200
1957-July	19,900	4,200	15,800	8,300	24,100	7,800	7,300
-August	19,500	4,300	16,200	7,600	23,800	8,400	7,900
-September	18,200	4,200	15,000	7,700	22,400	8,900	7,200

An employment survey of larger privately-owned factories in New South Wales (undertaken by the Department of Labour and National Service and the Commonwealth Statistician) during August and September 1957 also showed some signs of the slackness of earlier months being halted. Total recorded employment which had fallen from 199,000 in March 1957 to 196,100 in July recovered to 196,500 in August and 197,700 in September. Much of the September rise was due to the resumption of

work after a long dispute at Metters, involving about 850 workers, but there were some other small rises in the motor, television, refrigerator chemical, and clothing industries which offset minor falls in heavy engineering, rubber and a few other industries. In September, for the first time for several months, the proportion of firms reporting staff increases (20%), exceeded the proportion (18%) reporting staff reductions. The number of firms working overtime was the highest since the end of 1956.

EMPLOYMENT IN LARGER PRIVATE FACTORIES SURVEYED - N.S.W. thousand Persons

Industrial Group	Sept. '55	Sept. '56	March '57	July '57	Aug. '57	Sept. '57
Building Materials	14.9	14.5	14.4	14.2	14.2	14.1
Basic Materials	31.5	32.9	34.9	35.3	35.5	35.5
Transport Equipment	20.5	20.4	19.5	19.6	19.7	19.8
Other Metal Mfrs.	48.5	46.3	48.2	47.4	47.7	48.6
Chemical Products	8.9	9.3	9.4	9.4	9.5	9.6
Clothing & Textiles	29.7	29.2	28.6	28.3	28.2	28.2
Food, Drink & Tobacco	19.9	19.0	21.0	19.0	18.8	18.8
Other Industries	22.8	22.8	23.0	22.9	22.9	23.1
Total : Men	149.7	148.7	152.0	150.6	150.8	151.6
Women	47.0	45.7	47.0	45.5	45.7	46.1
Persons	196.7	194.4	199.0	196.1	196.5	197.7
Total, excl. Food, etc.	176.8	175.4	178.0	177.1	177.7	178.9

COAL PRODUCTION = New South Wales (See also graph p.113).

New South Wales coal production in recent months has been maintained at the high rate of 300,000 to 350,000 tons a week, and the total of 11.4m. tons for the forty weeks ended 28th September was a record for that period. Expansion continued on the Southern field and more than compensated for the decline in the Western mines and the Northern open-cut mines. Production from Northern underground mines, after a lag earlier in the year, was comparatively high in recent months.

COAL PRODUCTION - NEW SOUTH WALES - Thousand Tons

	Year ended December				Forty Weeks ended @			
	1953	1954	1955	1956	2/10/54	1/10/55	29/9/56	28/9/57P
Underground								
Northern	7956	8627	8484	8360	6478	6343	6160	6200
Southern	3009	3366	3594	3982	2486	2658	2922	3400
Western	1487	1710	1757	1658	1271	1328	1240	1200
Total	12452	13703	13835	14000	10235	10329	10322	10800
Open Cut	1722	1380	901	810	1099	710	627	560
TOTAL N.S.W.	14174	15083	14736	14810	11334	11039	10949	11360

P: Preliminary; @Incl. 2 weeks holidays in 1954 and 3 weeks in 1955, 1956 & 1957.

IRON AND STEEL PRODUCTION = New South Wales (See also graph p.113).

New South Wales pig iron and ingot steel production reached the record figures of 393,000 tons and 529,000 tons respectively in July-August 1957 and were then 36% and 23% higher than in July/August 1956.

IRON AND STEEL PRODUCTION. (Thousand tons).

	Year ended June				July and August		
	1939	1955	1956	1957	1955	1956	1957
Pig Iron (N.S.W.)	1,105	1,669	1,777	1,878	285	290	393
Ingot Steel (N.S.W.)	1,168	2,162	2,329	2,834	386	430	529

NEW SOUTH WALES RAILWAYS AND STATE TRANSPORT CO-ORDINATION FUND

Passenger and freight traffic on the State railways in July and August 1957 was comparatively light, but a decline in earnings, as compared with 1956, was balanced by a reduction in working expenses.

NEW SOUTH WALES GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS

Year	Months of July and August					Year ended June -	
	Passenger Journeys	Goods (excl. Livestock)	Gross Earnings	Working Expenses	Net (a) Earnings	Passenger Journeys	Goods (excl. Livestock)
	millions	mill.tons	£'000	£'000	£'000	millions	mill.tons
1954	46.5	3.40	12,548	10,852	1,696	278.9	19.35
1956	43.9	3.32	13,378	12,972	406	280.5	18.05
1957	43.1	3.15	12,808	12,320	488	264.1	18.14

(a) Working Account.

The Auditor-General's analysis of railway accounts for the year 1956-57 shows that additional revenue from higher passenger fares, as from 1st July, 1956, was largely offset by a decline in passenger traffic, amounting to 5.8% in terms of passenger journeys, mostly on Sydney suburban travel. Goods earnings were affected by a fall of £731,000 in receipt from the Transport (Co-ordination) Fund (see below), a decrease of about £450,000 in earnings from coal and coke, (partly due to supplies for power stations being drawn from nearer sources) and less revenue from livestock and wheat. However, a rise of 1.3m. in revenue from general goods carriage kept the total at last year's figure of £52m. The rise over the year of about £300,000 to £74.5m. in total expenditure was less than in recent years. As in 1955-56, 51% of total services expenditure was required for operation, 39% for maintenance and renewals and 10% for refreshment rooms and general charges. Debt charges rose by £1.1m. over the year to £11.8m., and the net deficit on railway account was £5.8m. in 1956-57, as compared with £7.6m. and £2.3m. in the two preceding years.

NEW SOUTH WALES GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS - £ million

Year ended June	Revenue					Expenditure on Services	Balance Revenue A/c.	Capital Charges	Net Balance
	Traffic		Other	Govt. Contrib.	Total				
	Coaching	Goods							
1954	18.0	52.8	3.8	1.8	76.4	67.2	9.2	9.0	+ .2
1955	17.8	51.8	3.8	1.8	75.2	67.9	7.3	9.6	- 2.3
1956	19.6	52.0	3.8	1.8	77.2	74.2	3.0	10.6	- 7.6
1957	22.8	52.0	3.9	1.8	80.5	74.5	6.0	11.8	- 5.8

Receipts by the State Transport (Co-ordination) Fund, mainly from charges on intrastate goods traffic, rose from £950,000 in 1955-56 to £1.2m. in 1956-57; this compares with a peak of £2m. in 1953-54 when it also included interstate charges. A number of claims for refund are proceeding, and the fund reduced its payments to the railways in 1956-57 and held a balance of £766,000 at 30th June.

STATE TRANSPORT (CO-ORDINATION) FUND £ million

Year ended June	Receipts				Payments			
	Charges		Fees & Fines	Total Receipts	To Railways		Other, incl. Expenses	Total Payments
	Passeng.	Goods			Passenger	Goods		
1939	.01	.04	.03	.08	.02	.07	.05	.14
1954	.05	1.80	.10	1.95	.05	1.70	.19	1.94
1956	.03	.84	.08	.95	.02	.98	.21	1.21
1957	.03	1.03	.14	1.20	.01	.24	.28	.53

MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS = New South Wales (See also graph p.114).

The recovery of recent months in new car registrations did not continue in August 1957 when the New South Wales total of 4,000 was well below July (4,700) and August 1956 (4,500). New registrations of commercial vehicles remained more stable. The total number of cars on the State register rose by 32,400 to 516,500 between August 1956 and 1957, as compared with rises of 38,500 and 44,300 in the two preceding twelve month periods.

New South Wales	Cars			Lorries, Utilities & Vans		
	1955	1956	1957	1955	1956	1957
Monthly Average of New Registrations						
March Quarter	4,300	4,100	4,100	1,800	2,000	1,600
June Quarter	5,300	4,000	4,400	2,200	2,100	2,000
July	5,300	4,100	4,700	2,300	2,200	2,100
August	5,700	4,500	4,000	2,300	1,900	2,000
Sept.-Dec.	5,000	4,200		2,300	1,800	
Total on Register at End of August						
	445,600	484,100	516,500	226,400	240,400	254,700

PART II: FINANCE AND TRADE

CENTRAL BANKING = Australia

Gold and Balances abroad held by the Central Bank which were £467m. (out of a total of £565m. Australian international reserves) at the end of June 1957 did not show the seasonal winter decline of some earlier years and with £473m. at the end of September were £188m. more than a year earlier. "Other Assets", which includes advances to trading banks, and Central Bank holdings of Government securities were reduced during the current year, but not to the same extent as the rise in reserves.

Following greater reliance on the trading banks' maintenance of set liquidity rates in 1956 and 1957 fewer changes in Special Account were required. They were set at £255m. in September quarter 1956 and following the growing liquidity of the banks, increased to £340m. by April 1957 at which figure they remain. Only minor changes occurred in the note issue during the year.

COMMONWEALTH BANK - CENTRAL BANKING BUSINESS, incl. Note Issue. £millions.

Last Week of Month	Notes on Issue held by			Trading Banks		Other Liabilities (a)	Gold & Bal'cs, Abroad	Govt. & Other Securities	Other Assets (b)
	Public	Banks	Total	Special A/c	Other Dep's.				
1951-Sept.	250	35	285	515	33	262	646	373	77
1955-Sept.	331	39	370	265	36	205	313	509	60
1956-June	331	42	373	255	33	210	273	502	98
-Sept.	340	42	382	255	43	203	285	545	59
1957-June	338	43	381	340	28	213	467	454	44
-Sept.	346	42	388	340	31	204	473	486	19

(a) Excluding capital and reserve funds. (b) Excluding coins and bills held.

MAJOR PRIVATE TRADING BANKS = Australia (See also graph p. 114)

Bank deposits fell seasonally by £84m. to £1332m. between March and August 1957 and recovered to £1342m. in September when they were £94m. more than in September 1956. The greater part of the increase over the year was in interest-bearing deposits. After some recovery earlier in the year bank advances fell from £771m. in July 1957 to £762m. in August and £756m. in September and were then well below the level of recent years. The advances-deposits ratio of 56% in September was comparatively low, while the fact that no Special Accounts were released to meet the seasonal demand on trading bank funds this year has kept their proportion to deposits relatively high (22% in September) and the liquid assets ratio of 18% was also greater than at this time of some recent years.

MAJOR PRIVATE TRADING BANKS - Business within Australia

Average of weekly figures	Deposits at Credit of Customers			Advances to Customers	Central Bank Special Accts.	Public Securities	Treasury Bills	Cash Items	Ratio to Deposits		
	At Interest	Other	Total						Ad-vances	Spec-ial A/c.	Cash & Secur-ities
£ million									Percent		
1955-Sept.	261	997	1,258	823	232	106	24	65	66	18	16
1956-Aug.	278	956	1,234	787	223	116	29	68	64	18	17
Sept.	284	964	1,248	779	223	120	37	71	62	18	18
1957-Mar.	313	1,103	1,416	725	283	188	92	60	51	20	24
July	329	1,021	1,350	771	300	159	19	59	57	22	18
-Aug.	331	1,001	1,332	762	300	158	17	60	57	23	18
-Sept.	334	1,008	1,342	756	300	160	21	58	56	22	18

SAVINGS BANKS = New South Wales and Australia

The savings bank deposit increase of £4.2m. in New South Wales and £12.6m. in Australia during August 1957 was comparatively heavy and was spread over the Commonwealth, State and private savings banks. New South Wales deposits at the end of August totalled £429.1m., a rise of £34.4m. over the year mostly in deposits with the private savings banks. The Australian total rose by £85.5m. to £1247.7m. of which 30% accrued to the Commonwealth and State savings banks and 70% to the private institutions.

SAVINGS BANK DEPOSITS - New South Wales and Australia - £ million

	NEW SOUTH WALES			AUSTRALIA			
	C'wealth Savings Bank	Other Savings Banks	All Savings Banks	C'wealth Savings Banks	State Savings Banks	Other Savings Banks	All Savings Banks
Deposits at end of Month							
Aug. 1955	358.9	-	358.9	694.7	386.0	-	1080.7
Aug. 1956	361.9	32.8	394.7	707.1	393.0	62.1	1162.2
June 1957	363.4	58.8	422.2	714.8	400.9	111.7	1227.4
July 1957	362.9	62.0	424.9	715.8	401.2	118.1	1235.1
Aug. 1957	365.1	64.0	429.1	721.0	404.4	122.3	1247.7
Increase - August to August							
1954-55	15.8	-	15.8	36.0	19.9	-	55.9
1955-56	3.0	32.8	35.8	12.4	7.0	62.1	81.5
1956-57	3.2	31.2	34.4	13.9	11.4	60.2	85.5

CAPITAL ISSUES = Australia

Statistics of the number and value of new capital issues by Australian companies listed on Australian stock exchanges for the year 1956-57 show that the decline of the preceding year from the high 1954-55 level continued. Some large share issues early in 1957 kept the aggregate consideration relatively high, but the cash consideration of share issues totalling £53m. and the actual amount of new cash raised on shares, £44m., in 1956-57 was much less than in the two preceding years. The total for debenture issues, registered notes and deposits accepted rose from £119m. to £144m. over the year but most of this was from conversions and re-newals, this being largely a short-term type of finance, and the amount of new money raised increased only from £50m. to £53m. In addition to 409 share issues totalling £111m. by Australian companies during 1956-57 overseas companies listed on Australian stock exchanges made 11 issues worth £5m., as compared with 8 issues worth £22m. in 1955-56, most of it raised outside of Australia.

CAPITAL RAISED BY AUSTRALIAN COMPANIES LISTED ON AUSTRALIAN STOCK EXCHANGES

	Share Issues						Debentures, Reg'd Notes or Deposits Accepted			
	Commenced in Period			Cash Raised in Period			New Money	Other	Total	
	No. of Issues	CONSIDERATION		New Money	Other	Total				
		Cash	Total							
Year	No.	£A Million								
1950-51	684	85.1	119.7	67.4	2.5	69.9	not available			
1953-54	262	52.1	76.6	42.6	2.2	44.8	not available			
1954-55	556	73.4	113.5	59.7	8.4	68.1	27.5	36.4	63.9	
1955-56	539	69.0	104.4	59.2	8.8	68.0	50.0	69.1	119.1	
1956-57P	409	52.8	111.1	43.6	7.4	51.0	52.8	90.8	143.6	
1955-Jul.Dec.	304	40.2	60.8	32.8	5.2	38.0	35.6	22.5	58.1	
1956-Jan.June	235	28.8	43.6	26.4	3.6	30.0	14.4	46.6	61.0	
1956-Jul.Dec.P.212	20.5	41.0	22.1	3.3	25.4	34.6	38.9	73.5		
1957-Jan.Jul.P.197	32.3	70.1	21.5	4.1	25.6	18.2	51.9	70.1		

P. Preliminary.

SYDNEY STOCK EXCHANGE

Sydney share prices during the first three weeks of September remained firmly at the level reached towards the end of August. However, they fell sharply during the last week of the month and the first week of October with the daily Stock Exchange index for industrials registering a decline of about 5%. Factors leading to the break seem to have included the worsening rural outlook and the weakness of the London and New York stock markets. The monthly averages quoted below do not reflect the late September decline.

INDEX OF SHARE PRICES - SYDNEY - (Compiled by N.S.W. Govt. Statistician).

	Manufacturing & Distributing	Retail	Pastoral Finance	Insurance	Total 75 Companies ^x	34 Active Shares
Par Value = 100						
1957-March	434	363	265	690	314	316
July	448	361	290	737	329	332
August	457	369	305	769	339	342
September	462	372	293	768	341	345
Index - Year 1947 = 100						
1951 - Peak	161	128	182	202	143	134
1956 - Peak	130	135	153	174	124	117
- Low	121	117	138	144	115	109
1957 - Sept.	140	120	172	197	133	128

^x Including other series

NEW SOUTH WALES ACCOUNTS

Revenue increases from tax reimbursements, State taxation and services raised Governmental revenue in September quarter from £25.5m. in 1956 to £28.8m. in 1957, while Governmental expenditure rose only by £500,000 to £27.7m. over the period. In the business undertakings a reduction in railway expenditure in the 1957 period was offset by a fall in revenue but tram and bus revenue rose slightly while expenditure decreased a little. Overall there was a marked improvement in the financial accounts of the State in the 1957 period. Total revenue exceeded total expenditure for the quarter for the first time since 1954, Governmental revenue exceeded Governmental expenditure for the first time since 1951, and tram and bus revenue covered working expenses for the first time since 1949. Gross loan expenditure of £11.7m. in the 1957 quarter was higher than in recent years although well below the 1952 peak of £14.7m.

NEW S UTH WALES ACCOUNTS - In £millions

Revenue	September Quarter			Expenditure	September Quarter		
	1955	1956	1957		1955	1956	1957
Tax Reimbursements	12.3	13.1	14.2	Net Debt Charges	4.5	4.5	4.5
State Taxation	6.2	7.0	9.0	Other, excl. above			
Other Governmental	5.2	5.4	5.6	Governmental	20.7	22.7	23.2
Total Governmental	23.7	25.5	28.8	Total above	25.2	27.2	27.7
Railways	18.2	18.3	17.8	Railways	17.2	18.5	18.2
Tram & Bus Service	2.9	3.3	3.4	Tram & Bus Service	3.2	3.4	3.3
Sydney Harbour	.8	.8	.7	Sydney Harbour	.5	.5	.5
Total Business	21.9	22.4	21.9	Total Business	20.9	22.4	22.0
Total Revenue	45.6	47.9	50.7	Total Expenditure	46.1	49.6	49.7
GROSS LOAN EXPENDITURE ON WORKS & SERVICES					10.0	10.7	11.7

RETAIL TRADE = LARGE SYDNEY STORES

A rise in retail turnovers by large Sydney stores in July 1957, relative to 1956, seems to have been due partly to special factors. The August 1957 total was 1% less than a year earlier, and for the eight months ended August 1957 sales were only just equal to the corresponding 1956 figure. Stock values continued to decline, and in August 1957 were 4% less than in August 1956 and 5% less than in August 1955.

LARGE SYDNEY STORES - Percentage Changes Compared with Previous Year

	VALUE OF SALES				VALUE OF STOCK (End of Period)			
	1954	1955	1956	1957	1954	1955	1956	1957
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
March Quarter	+ 7	+ 4	+ 4	-	+ 4	+ 12	+ 1	- 1
April	+ 10	+ 5	+ 2	- 1	+ 6	+ 10	+ 5	- 3
May	+ 11	+ 5	+ 1	- 1	+ 11	+ 9	+ 4	- 4
June	+ 8	+ 4	- 1	- 8	+ 12	+ 9	+ 2	- 3
July	+ 5	+ 4	- 2	+ 9	+ 13	+ 10	- 2	- 5
August	+ 13	+ 4	-	- 1	+ 12	+ 10	- 1	- 4
Eight Months	+ 9	+ 4	+ 1	-				

PART III: RURAL INDUSTRIES

THE SEASON = New South Wales (see also graph 113)

The dry weather of recent months continued in inland districts during September, and coastal areas also had very little rain. During the twelve months ended September the rainfall in the sheep and wheat areas of the State reached or exceeded the seasonal normal only three times, in October 1956 and February and July 1957. The wheat crop is feared to be an almost complete failure, and the condition of pastures and stock is deteriorating for lack of rain.

RAINFALL INDEX, NEW SOUTH WALES, "Normal Rainfall" = 100 for each period.

	Sheep Districts					Wheat Districts				Coastal Dairying Districts			
	N	C	S	W	Total	N	C	S	Total	N	C	S	Total
1956													
Jan.-July	195	234	236	276	224	190	224	244	205	148	174	207	159
Aug.-Dec.	74	81	114	69	88	69	72	121	98	67	63	77	67
1957													
Jan.-May	82	60	56	59	67	84	61	60	64	62	75	39	63
June	54	38	80	115	64	55	34	82	66	31	28	74	36
July	65	100	147	69	102	65	115	141	125	124	94	223	129
August	90	89	79	40	81	76	101	59	72	224	242	255	233
September	10	4	31	4	15	10	6	28	20	8	22	27	14

N: Northern. C: Central. S: Southern. W: Western.

LIVESTOCK AND WOOL CLIP = New South Wales

(Annual returns by landholders for year ended 31st March)

New South Wales livestock returns for the year ended March 1957 reflect the continuance of the favourable conditions prevailing in the three preceding seasons. Sheep numbers rose from the previous peak of 63mill. in March 1956 to 67.7mill. in 1957, and the number of holdings depasturing 50 or more sheep from 37,255 to 37,738. The increase in numbers was marked for all types - rams, ewes, wethers and lambs, and the lambing average remained at the relatively high 1955-56 rate of 71% of ewes mated.

Cattle numbers rose from 3,679,000 in March 1956 to the record number of 3,911,000 in 1957. The increase was confined to beef cattle while the number of dairy cows slightly declined over the year. After a decline in pig numbers from 375,000 in 1955 to 343,000 in 1956 the total rose to 387,000 in 1957 - the highest since 1946. Horses again declined in numbers.

LIVESTOCK IN NEW SOUTH WALES = Thousands

At 31st March	Sheep	Cattle			Pigs	Horses
		Dairy Cows (a)	Other (b)	Total		
1944	56,837	1,043	2,100	3,143	561	466
1947	43,105	968	2,015	2,983	358	380
1954	59,639	979	2,575	3,554	372	280
1955	59,200	974	2,487	3,461	375	258
1956	62,988	993	2,686	3,679	343	247
1957	67,670	987	2,924	3,911	387	236

(a) Cows and heifers in registered dairies. (b) Incl. in 1957 beef cattle 2,577,000; calves and bulls in registered dairies 170,000, and milking cows not in registered dairies 177,000.

The number of sheep and lambs shorn in the State rose from 62m. in 1955-56 to 70m. in 1956-57, and the clip average (including crutchings) of 8.8 lbs. greasy per sheep (including lambs) was also relatively high. The total wool yield of 660m. lbs. was 11% above the previous record of 1955-56 and one-third more than the average of the immediate pre-war years.

SHEEP SHORN AND WOOL PRODUCED - NEW SOUTH WALES

Year or Yearly Average	Sheep and Lambs Shorn	Total Shorn Wool	Average Clip per Sheep	Total Wool Produced (Greasy Weight)
	Millions	Million lbs.	lb.	Million lbs.
1936-40	54.4	445.2	8.2	490.9
1941-45	56.7	463.9	8.2	513.5
1954-55	59.6	499.9	8.4	541.0
1955-56	61.8	551.0	8.9	593.7
1956-57	70.1	617.9	8.8	660.3

New South Wales meat production in the year 1956-57 reached the record figure of 380,000 tons (carcass weight of fresh meat), as compared with between 371,000 tons and 375,000 tons in the four preceding years. The increase was confined to beef and veal production. Lamb production remained steady, and production of mutton and pigmeats declined in recent years. Meat exports with a total of 16,000 tons remained comparatively low, but stocks at the end of June 1957 were higher than in 1956. The total moving into consumption in 1956-57 was apparently a little higher than in recent years.

MEAT PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION = N.S.W. and Australia

Year or Yearly Average	Production - Thousand Tons							
	New South Wales					Australia		
	Beef & Veal @	Mutton @	Lamb @	Pork @	Bacon & Ham#	Total Bone	Fresh Meat in Weight@	Canned Meat Ø
1936/7-38/9	181	74	30	12	10	312	982	12
1954-55	215	74	49	17	12	371	1207	77
1955-56	222	71	50	15	11	373	1225	71
1956-57P	232	69	50	15	10	380	1250	68
	CONSUMPTION - lb. per Head of Population - Australia							
	Beef & Veal @	Mutton @	Lamb @	Pork @	Bacon & Ham#	Offal	Canned Meat Ø	Total
1936/7-38/9	144	60	15	10	10	8	+	253
1954-55	116	52	26	10	8	11	2	229
1955-56	119	49	26	10	8	10	3	232
1956-57P	127	45	27	9	n.a.	8	n.a.	n.a.

Cured Weight; Ø Canned Weight; @ Carcass Weight; + Incl. in fresh meat.

Meat production in Queensland and Tasmania was also comparatively high in 1956-57 and the Australian total rose from 1.23m.tons in 1955-56 to the record figure of 1.25m.tons in 1956-57, mainly through the expansion in beef production. Australian meat consumption rose apparently a little over the 1955-56 total of 232 lbs. per head of population through a rise in beef consumption which exceeded the fall in mutton and pork but it remained well below the pre-war average of 253lbs. A fall in oversea exports of tinned meats and lamb was mainly responsible for a reduction in the value of Australian meat exports from £60m. in 1955-56 to £51m. in 1956-57.

VALUE OF OVERSEA EXPORTS OF MEAT (Incl. Poultry & Game) - £million

Year or Yearly Average	Australia					N.S.W.	
	Beef & Veal	Mutton & Lamb	Other Frozen or Chilled	Tinned Meats	Other Meats	TOTAL MEAT EXPORTS	
1936-39	3.9	5.1	1.4	.4	.6	11.4	2.0
1953-54	22.0	5.3	5.4	21.6	3.4	57.7	10.9
1954-55	21.9	11.8	5.4	20.6	3.8	63.5	8.2
1955-56	23.4	9.8	5.5	18.2	3.5	60.4	8.8
1956-57	23.2	6.1	5.4	13.2	3.0	50.9	6.6

DAIRYING

The winter drop in New South Wales dairy output this year was greater than usual, and affected mainly butter production. Supplies to the Milk Board and to factories for processing into cheese and other products were well maintained.

WHOLEMILK - PRODUCTION AND USE - NEW SOUTH WALES

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	
	BUTTER	CHEESE	MILK BOARD	PROCESSED	OTHER	WHOLEMILK	
	Factory Output		DELIVERIES	MILK	USES	All Purposes	
	m.lbs.	million gallons					
<u>Year</u>							
1954-55	87	179.8	5.6	68.6	11.6	50.1	315.7
1955-56	92	193.7	7.4	73.3	16.8	46.0	337.2
1956-57P	76	162.1	8.9	76.2	18.3	40.1	305.6
<u>Jul.-Aug.-</u>							
1955	8	16.5	.6	12.2	1.9	7.6	38.8
1956	7	15.7	.8	12.7	2.0	6.7	37.9
1957P	6	12.5	.9	12.7	2.2	6.7	35.0

- (1) Weight converted at rate of 2,075g. per lb. (2) 1 gall. equal to 1 lb.
 (3) Wholemilk delivered to Board. (4) Used for condensed etc. milk.
 (5) Including fresh milk not sold through Board, and farm butter and cheese.
 P. Preliminary.

WOOL (See also graph p. 114)

Wool deliveries into the Sydney, Newcastle and Goulburn stores in September quarter 1957 were equal to last year's record figure of 592,000 bales. Usually between 30% and 40% of the year's total are delivered in the September quarter. The quantity put up for disposal at the September sales was a little less than usual, and the total remaining in store at the end of the month, 416,000 bales was larger than in recent years. Realisations at the first sales averaged 70d. per lb. greasy, as against 75d. in 1956, and this, together with the smaller quantity, reduced the sales yield from £23m. in September quarter 1956 to £19m. in 1957.

RECEIPTS AND DISPOSAL OF WOOL = New South Wales Stores, excluding Albury

	1954	1955	1956	1957		
	Total N.S.W.			Sydney	Newcastle & Goulburn	Total N.S.W.
	Quantity in Thousand Bales					
Carry-over from June	21	26	19	32	6	38
Receipts, July-Sept.	561	577	592	450	142	592
Total	582	603	611	482	148	630
Disposals, July-Sept.	231	233	246	171	43	214
Balance in Store at end of September	351	370	365	311	105	416
	Value of Sales in £million					
September Quarter	21.4	16.8	22.9	15.2	3.9	19.1

Fairly good demand was evident at the wool sales held at Sydney and other Australian centres during September. Prices remained near the opening level of the season with a full-clip average of 72d. per lb. greasy; that is 7d. less than in June/July and 8½d. below the 1956-57 average.

AVERAGE PRICE OF GREASY WOOL - NEW SOUTH WALES - Pence per lb. Greasy

Season ended	d. per lb.	Month (a)	1953-54	1955-56	1956-57	1957-58
30th June			Pence per lb.			
1951	145.3	July	85.0	67.0	65.0	79.0
1952	76.5	August	84.0	60.0	69.0	73.0
1953	85.1	September	83.0	58.0	75.0	72.0
1955	70.6	February	77.0	61.0	81.0	P.
1956	61.6	May	82.0	66.0	83.0	
1957	80.5	June	82.5	67.0	79.0	

- (a) Average that would be realised if whole clip were sold at price level of the month named. Ø Nominal. P. Preliminary.

Australian wool export statistics shown below refer to the twelve months ended August which reflect the selling season more nearly than the financial year. The greasy weight of wool shipped in the 1956-57 period reached the record figure of 1474m.lbs., an increase of 12% over the previous peak of 1955-56 and nearly two-thirds more than the average of the immediate pre-war years. The rise in 1956-57 was particularly marked for shipments to Japan, Italy and Germany. The weight of shipments to the United Kingdom also rose but remained below the level of some recent years, while those to the United States declined as in the previous year. The record quantity, together with an average price rise of about one-third during the year, raised the total value of wool exports from £343m. in 1955-56 to £492m. in 1956-57, with rises in the value of shipments to all major buying countries. In value, exports to Japan were but little below the United Kingdom figure, and large increases were recorded for many European countries, in particular for France, Italy, Germany and Poland, and also for China which took about £8m. worth of wool tops. Comparing the percentage composition of export values in the three years preceding the war with the recent seasons the main changes have been the reduction of the United Kingdom share from 41% to 24%, the rise for Japan from 9% to 21% and the superseding of Belgium by Italy and Germany as leading continental buyers after France. Wool exports from New South Wales for the twelve months ended August were valued at £168m. in 1957, as compared with £120m. in 1956.

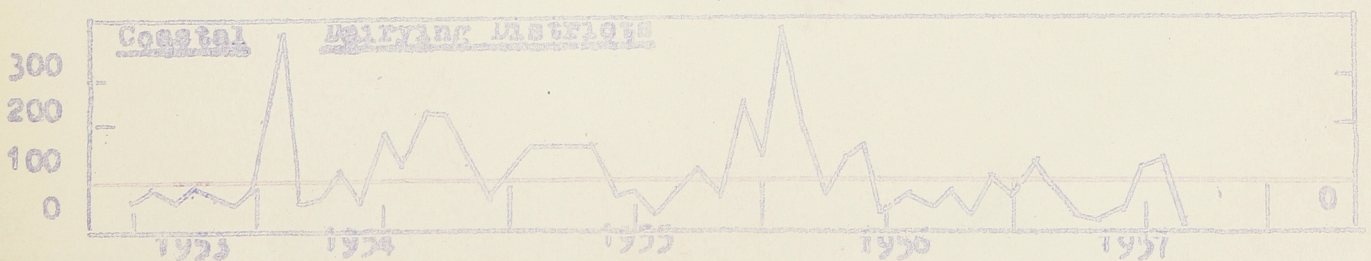
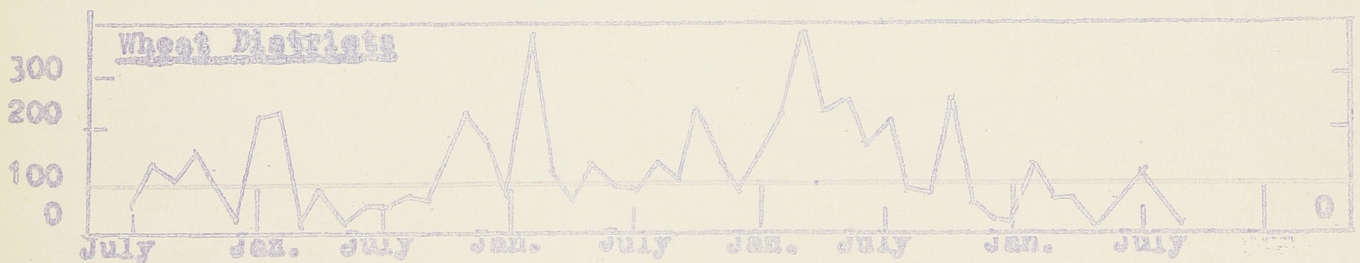
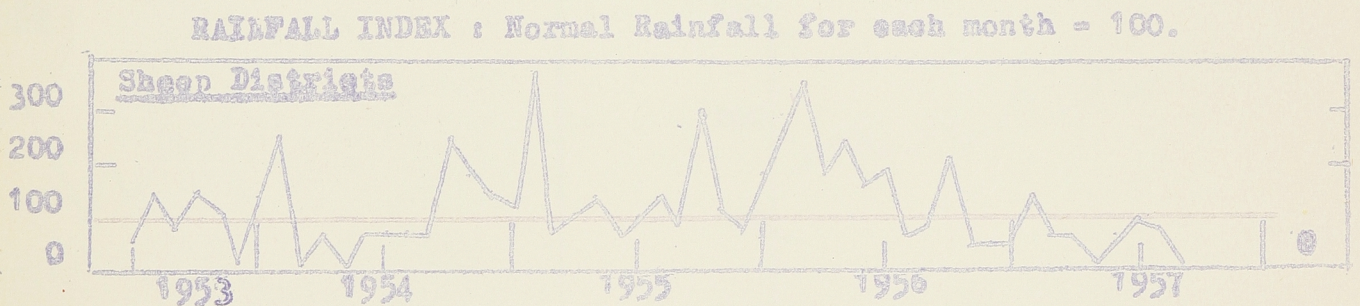
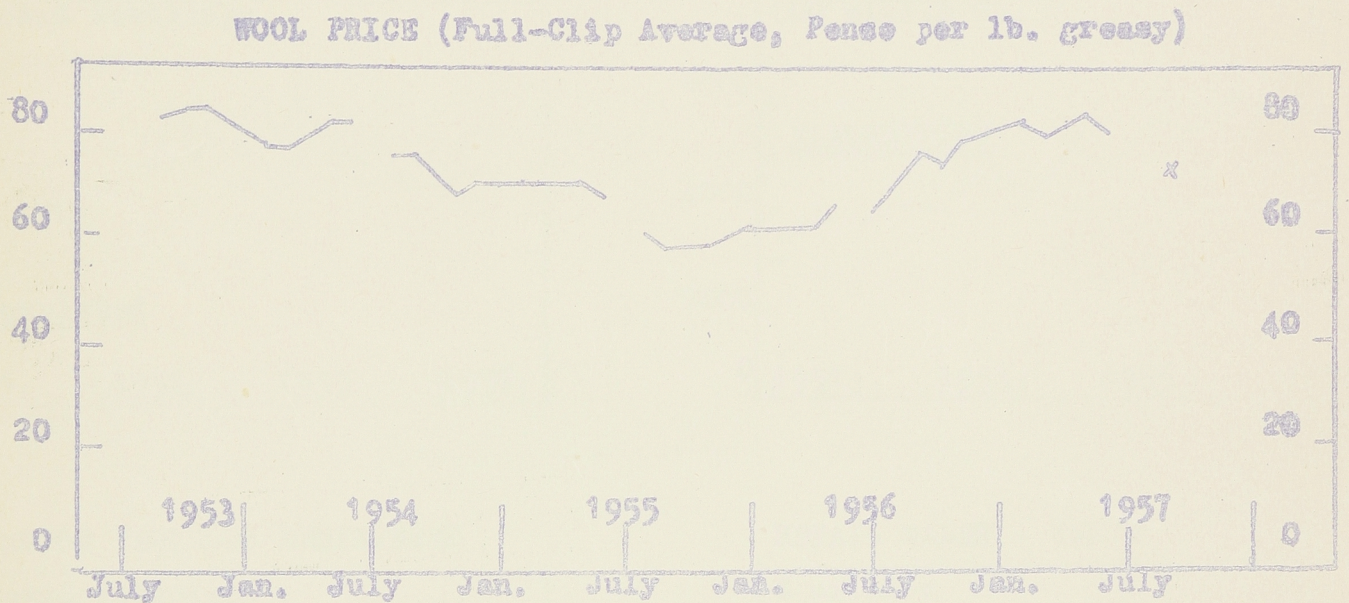
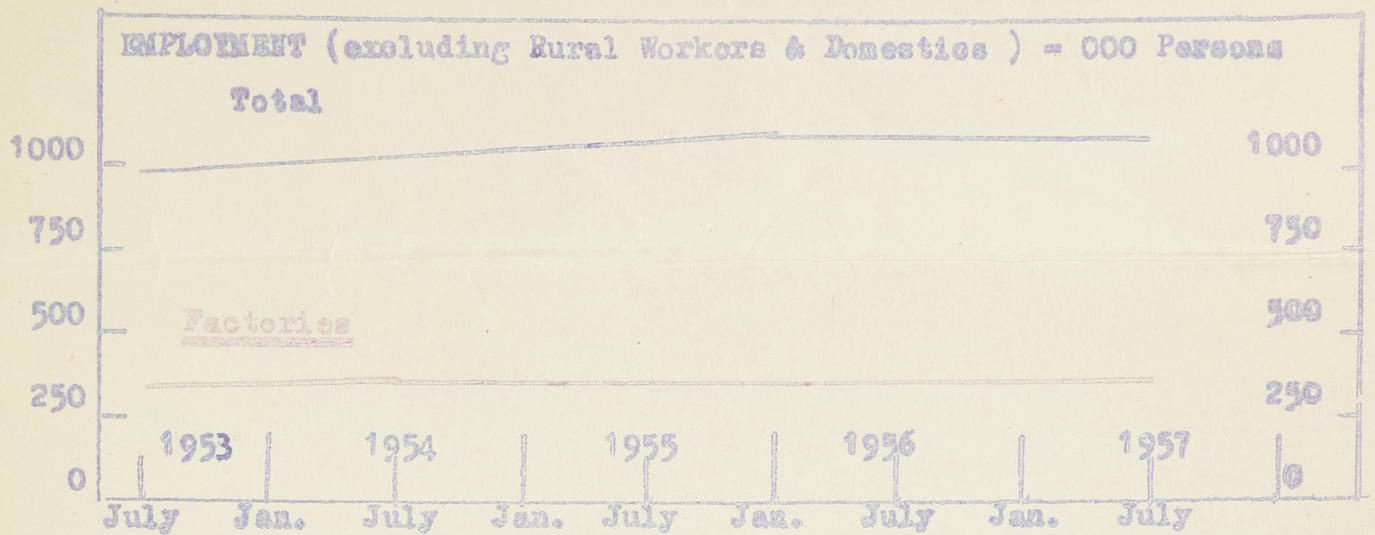
WOOL EXPORTS = Australia

Year ended August	U.K.	U.S.A.	France	Bel-gium	Italy	Ger-many	Eastern Europe	Japan	Others	Total
million lbs. - as in grease										
1939 ⁰	369	33	138	117	30	49	32	76	51	895
1954	335	93	174	96	124	64	77	108	77	1148
1955	366	102	176	103	105	82	35	145	92	1206
1956	328	81	216	109	108	93	40	233	104	1312
1957	353	79	224	109	146	113	53	270	127	1474
Value in £ million										
1939 ⁰	21	3	7	6	2	3	2	5	2	51
1951	189	138	76	39	40	24	28	52	45	631
1955	108	29	51	26	33	24	13	50	27	361
1956	84	20	55	23	29	23	13	70	26	343
1957	116	23	77	29	50	36	21	103	37	492
Proportion of Total Value										
1939 ⁰	41%	6%	14%	12%	4%	6%	4%	9%	4%	100%
1955	30%	8%	14%	7%	9%	7%	4%	14%	7%	100%
1956	24%	6%	16%	7%	8%	7%	4%	20%	8%	100%
1957	24%	5%	16%	6%	10%	7%	4%	21%	7%	100%

⁰ Incl. Russia in 1950/1 and 1953/4 and also Poland, Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia.

¹ Incl. scoured wool, tops etc. converted at rate of 1 to 2 into greasy wool.

² Average three years ended June 1939.



Series start in July, 1953, and go up to September, 1957.

